

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 DJIBOU 00097 030459Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 EB-07 /120 W

-----030502Z 048575 /12

P R 022130Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL DJIBOUTI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 69

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY SANA

USMISSION USUN

UNCLAS DJIBOUTI 0097

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT FT ET

SUBJ: ATTACK ON DJIBOUTI/ADDIS RAILWAY LINE: LOCAL REACTIONS

1. SUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON DJIBOUTI/ADDIS RAILWAY AT POINT EAST OF DIRE DAWA PROVOKED STRONG REACTION IN DJIBOUTI. MOST PEOPLE CONSIDER ATTACK PART OF OVERALL INTERDICTION EFFORT DESIGNED TO HALT MOUNTING FLOW OF SOVIET ARMS INTO ETHIOPIA AND MAY REPRESENT CLEAR INDICATION OF COORDINATED EFFORTS BETWEEN GROUPS IN SOMAILIA, ERITREA AND SUDAN WHICH ARE IN OPPOSITION TO ETHIOPIAN GOVERNMENT. DJIBOUTI IS MAIN PORT OF ENTRY FOR ETHIOPIAN POL SUPPLIES.

2. WHATEVER THE DAMAGE MAY BE TO THE RAILWAY, (SEE BELOW), THE INCIDENT REINFORCES LOCAL SUSPICION THAT AMIDST GROWING UNCLASSIFIED

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TENSIONS IN THE HORN, INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE OF DJIBOUTI ARE OF MINOR CONSEQUENCE IN SCHEMES OF CERTAIN NEIGHBORS. AMONG LOCAL PEOPLE REPRESENTING VARIOUS ETHNIC GROUPS WITH WHOM POST HAS DISCUSSED LATEST DEVELOPMENT, THERE IS A STRONG GENERAL DESIRE TO MAINTAIN DJIBOUTI'S INDEPENDENCE AND NEUTRALITY IN FACE OF OUTSIDE PRESSURES.

3. UNCONFIRMED TRAVELERS' REPORTS INDICATE THAT MAJOR BRIDGES BETWEEN CHENELE AND HARROUAH AND BETWEEN MELLO AND ADIGALA WERE SUBSTANTIALLY DAMAGED IN ATTACKS. ANOTHER UNCONFIRMED REPORT STATES BOMBINGS OF CONTROL TOWER AND IN MILITARY ZONE AT DIRE DAWA AIRPORT CAUSED CLOSURE AIRPORT OPERATIONS.

4. CLOSEDOWN OF RAILWAY HAS CAUSED PRICES OF FRESH FRUITS, VEGETABLES, POULTRY AND EGGS, MOST OF WHICH COME FROM DIRE DAWA TO THE LOCAL MARKET THREE TIMES A WEEK, TO DOUBLE IN LESS THAN 24 HOURS.

5. POST WOULD APPRECIATE UNCLASSIFIED DESCRIPTION OF LOCAL REACTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM SURROUNDING POSTS. CLARKE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SABOTAGE, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, RAILROADS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 02-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977DJIBOU00097  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** c415c486-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Review Event:**  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2308954  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ATTACK ON DJIBOUTI/ADDIS RAILWAY LINE: LOCAL REACTIONS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, FT, ET  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009